

March 12, 2018

Attendees:

Ms. Weiss Carson

Mr. Suhay

Mr. Wayt

Joan Heppert, Recording

Regular Meeting
of the
Russell Township Park Commission

West Woods Visitor Center

Call to Order:

The regular meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m.

Pledge of Allegiance

2018-14 Mr. Wayt moved to approve and sign the minutes from 01/08/18 as presented and was seconded by Mr. Suhay.

Vote: Mr. Suhay Y, Mr. Wayt Y. Motion passes.

Mr. Wayt opened the meeting with a web update and noted that the conservation easements, minutes from 2014 forward, most of the financials, the purchase and sale agreement of Modroo, the updated by-laws have all been uploaded and are available for anyone to view on the website. The survey link is on the front page of the website and is live.

- Linda O'Brien inquired how the word was going to spread about the survey.
 - A press release will be sent to four newspapers as previously discussed.

Pete McDonald continued the discussion regarding the Modroo house and barns and noted that they are currently trying to find a buyer for those. The ultimate plan was to have them connected. There are preliminary plans for what the park would look like if it was just the 53 acres; and if all three properties were combined. Mr. Wayt mentioned his concerns that the \$50K towards improvements may expire in December 2018. If the park board waits to see what happens with the house and barn properties and does not use the \$50k this year what happens to the money. Mr. Wayt then asked Mr. McDonald to follow up based on this information. Mr. McDonald stated that the WRLC is committed to the arrangement of the monies; and there may have to be an extension of the date. If something is needed legally to extend that date they would comply.

- Janet Hargrave asked how the house was zoned.
 - Residential

Pete McDonald went on to say that the house is listed at \$1.15M, and the barn is at \$200K.

- Linda O'Brien inquired who held the titles to the home and barn.
 - Mr. McDonald stated CBCH LLC, which is probably a LLC of WRLC.
- Charlie Butters inquired about another survey for the Modroo property.
 - Mr. Wayt responded that another survey specific to Modroo may take place in the future.
- Shelly Chernin inquired about multiple plans since inception for the property and was aware of two.
 - Pete McDonald responded that there were perhaps several but only one that he had available. He went on to state that the plan attached to the agreement is, in his opinion, conceptual.
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Donna Weiss Carson inquired about who would be running the operations if the properties were combined and Pete McDonald stated that Joe Leslie might have more information on that. Ms. Weiss Carson will reach out to Mr. Leslie and see if he can attend the next meeting. Linda O'Brien mentioned that Rich Cochran has the entire plan if things come to fruition. She went on to recall that the \$50K would cover the entrance fee, small parking area what would be called a natural trail and interpretive signage.

- Jack Schmidt inquired about putting in a corn maze to have an income to sustain the property.
- Linda O'Brien inquired of specific plans for the field so as not to turn fallow.

Mr. Wayt mentioned he was going to walk the property in the upcoming weeks and encouraged his fellow commissioners to do the same. Mr. Wayt is aware that a decision will need to be made in the near future regarding this topic.

- Donna Mintz mentioned that the path that was cut in September, 2017 is still a viable path and that she walks the path. She mentioned using a brush hog for other areas on the property for upkeep with the brambles. She had concerns about using any fertilizer on the property and stated fertilizer use should be carefully considered.
- Sharmyn Clark offered her brush hog to the park district for use to install temporary paths.

Mr. Suhay moved on to the pancake breakfast and mentioned having flyers and/or having a table set up. Donna Weiss Carson mentioned she spoke with someone from Kiwanis and they did not want the paperwork littered around. Charlie Butters suggested going to Michaels craft store for some iron-ons for t-shirts. Mr. Suhay will follow-up on the shirts. The commissioners asked for additional volunteers and Donna Mintz signed up. The 18th and 25th were decided and Joan Heppert has already reached out to Joe Weiss of the Chester Township Park District to join us.

2018-15 Mr. Wayt moved to approve and sign the 2018 season contract from Blades, Inc. as presented and was seconded by Mr. Suhay.

Vote: Mr. Suhay Y, Mr. Wayt Y, Ms. Weiss Carson Y. Motion passes.

Ms. Weiss Carson gave an update on the Hinkle system and noted an extension was requested until April 30th. She moved on to the year end update. She noted that the park district receives income from the local government fund and the library fund. She noted that last year there was additional income from the township and from property taxes. Ms. Weiss Carson noted that in 2017 80% went to the conservation fund and 20% went for operating expenses from the property taxes. This will be looked into. Charlie Butters advised Ms. Weiss Carson that the Park District can request money from Russell Township up to ½ mill according to the ORC. Linda O'brien noted that this money is earmarked for the parks and should not legally stay with the township. Ms. Weiss Carson noted she would follow up with Mr. Walder about this. Ms. Weiss Carson moved on to the banking update and noted the combined total of \$395K.

Joan Heppert gave a brief review of the temporary appropriations that were passed in December. The permanent appropriations have to be completed before the end of the month. Expenses in 2017 were at \$66K. Ms. Weiss Carson noted that there was nothing on the burner for land acquisition and there are other things to think about. Mr. Wayt stated that he did not see any projects on the horizon and Mr. Suhay agreed.

2018-16 Mr. Wayt moved to approve the 2018 permanent appropriations totaling \$41,600.00 as presented by the Fiscal Officer and was seconded by Mr. Suhay.

Roll Call Vote: Mr. Suhay Y, Mr. Wayt Y, Ms. Weiss Carson Y. Motion passes.

General Fund

Capital Improvements	\$20,000.00
Admin Expenses	<u>\$21,000.00</u>
	\$41,600.00

Land Conservation \$0.00

Total Permanent Appropriations \$41,600.00

2018-17 Mr. Wayt moved to approve purchase order 2018-15 for \$700.00 for snowplowing service and 2018-16 in the amount of \$250.00 for office supplies and was seconded by Mr. Suhay.

Vote: Mr. Suhay Y, Mr. Wayt Y, Ms. Weiss Carson Y. Motion passes.

2018-18 Mr. Wayt moved to approve and sign check # 1039-1042 dated 3/12/18 and was seconded by Mr. Suhay.

Vote: Mr. Suhay Y, Mr. Wayt Y, Ms. Weiss Carson Y. Motion passes.

The meeting was closed at 8:00 p.m

Commissioner

Commissioner

Commissioner

Warrant Listing:

3/12/18	Joan Heppert	\$697.36	#1039
3/12/18	Custom Cut Landscape LLC	\$320.00	#1040
3/12/18	Scott Wayt	\$172.69	#1041
3/12/18	Suttons Ins	\$100.00	#1042

